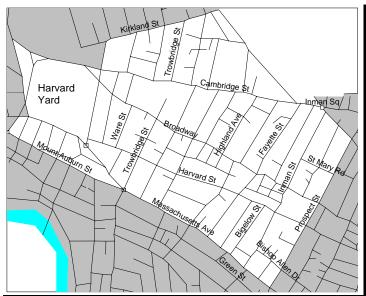
# NEIGHBORHOOD 6

## MID-CAMBRIDGE





**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street

**POPULATION:** 13,285 residents

5,989 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:** 

\$37,075

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	29	55	81	76	69
Street Robbery	2	12	13	11	10
Auto Theft	14	30	34	19	27
Larceny from MVs	64	47	65	109	59
Malicious Destruction	53	69	82	102	66
Drug Arrests	15	11	14	8	3

#### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

Housebreaks skyrocketed in the third quarter, beginning in August. The breaks involved the theft of high-priced electronics, laptops and DVD players, and entry was usually gained to residences by prying the front door. These third quarter breaks concentrated around the 200 to 300 blocks of Harvard Street and the 800 to 900 blocks of Massachusetts Avenue during the daytime. Other clusters of incidents have taken place around Trowbridge, Inman and Hancock Streets. Seven of the third quarter incidents were attempted breaks, in which there was evidence of an attempted entry, but none was made. • The only area of multiple street robberies has been around Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, on Broadway. These incidents have for the most part been classified as "bully boys", incidents in which multiple teens victimize a peer. Friday and Saturday robberies typically occurred between 11:00PM and 2:00AM, while weekday robberies concentrated between 1:00PM and 3:00PM. There were two arrests in Mid-Cambridge so far this year for street robberies. • Auto thefts have increased in the past year, when compared to 2002. The majority of these vehicles have already been recovered. Thursday was the prominent day of the week for auto theft incidents. • Larceny from motor vehicles was lowest during the first quarter. During the second quarter the breaks concentrated on Mondays and Tuesdays. In April there were several incidents involving the theft of auto parts (i.e. headlights) from Audis, and an additional incident of this nature took place in July. Almost all of the thefts in which Hondas were targeted involved stealing the car stereo, particularly Pioneer brand stereos. • Malicious destruction of property was also lowest during the first quarter. There was one rash of incidents on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, in which the tires of eleven vehicles were slashed in the area of Hancock, Antrim, and Harvard Streets. Seven of the total malicious destruction incidents were attempted auto thefts. The main area of multiple offenses is around Broadway, Harvard and Hancock Streets. • There were only three **drug arrests** in Mid Cambridge since the beginning of 2003, all of which were routine stops in which the suspects were found in possession of marijuana.

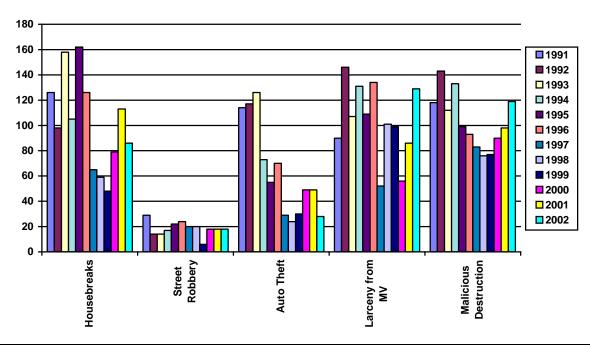
### **NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS**

Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major throughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners.

Because of the large number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher than average rate for several crimes. Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.

- Residential Burglary is naturally highest in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut in half since the 1980s, it still remains a serious problem. In 1992, burglaries fell below 100 for the first and only time in the previous 30 years. The largest clusters appear on Harvard Street between Prospect and Lee Streets, on Broadway between Lee and Ellery Streets, around the Massachusetts Avenue/Hancock Street intersection, on the lower half of Trowbridge Street, and on Lee Street. Mid-Cambridge also ranks high in Larceny from motor vehicles and the related crimes of auto theft and malicious destruction. The Cambridge Police Department strives to reduce both crimes through preventive patrol efforts, "Park and Walks," and priority investigation. Its 50 percent drop since the 1980s bespeaks some success.
- Street robbery is surprisingly low in Mid-Cambridge given its population. Most of the incidents that do occur happen
  on Massachusetts Avenue, on Cambridge Street, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of bicycle thefts each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.

#### **ANNUAL TOTALS**



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR MID-CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES								
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*			
Housebreaks	226	1	103	1	1			
Street Robbery	49	3	18	5	3			
Auto Theft	147	4	70	3	8			
Larceny from MVs	198	1	106	2	1			
Malicious Destruction	149	1	106	5	3			

<sup>\*</sup>Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest